

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the statement in the above-identified Office Action that claims 1-18 define patentable subject matter.

The only rejection in the Office Action was under 35 USC 251 based on a defective reissue declaration. It was stated that each signature of the inventors, if supplied on a separate sheet, must be part of a complete oath/declaration. As such, three declarations, each signed by a single co-inventor, were required.

In compliance with this requirement, enclosed herewith are separate originally signed Supplemental Reissue Declarations of each of the inventors. Each of the Supplemental Reissue Declarations is a complete Declaration. Upon entry of the enclosed documents, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 USC 251 will be overcome. Therefore, entry of the enclosed Supplemental Reissue Application Declarations and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Also enclosed herewith is the original U.S. Patent, which is being surrendered in accordance with 37 CFR 1.178.

In conclusion, upon entry of the new Supplemental Reissue Declarations and receipt of the original U.S. Patent 5,868,123, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Serial No. 09/779,877
Response to Office Action dated August 28, 2003
Response dated October 20, 2003

If any issues remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures